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## China - Peoples Republic of

**Post:** Beijing

### Labeling of Prepackaged Foods for Special Dietary Uses (Draft)

**Report Categories:**

Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and  
Standards - Certification

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**Report Highlights:**

On August 27, 2012, China's Ministry of Health issued a National Food Safety Standard- Labeling of Prepackaged Foods for Special Dietary Uses (Draft) for public comments. The New standard replaces GB 13432-2004 "General Standards for Labeling of Prepackaged Foods for Special Dietary Uses." This standard has not been notified to the WTO.

This report is an INFORMAL translation of this document.

**General Information:**  
**BEGIN TRANSLATION**

**National Food Safety Standard-Labeling of Prepackaged Foods for Special Dietary Uses (Draft)**

**Preface**

This standard replaces GB 13432-2004 “General Standards for Labeling of Prepackaged Foods for Special Dietary Uses”。

The main changes to this standard in comparison to GB 13432-2004 are as follows:

- The name of standard is changed to “National Food Safety Standard - Labeling of Prepackaged Foods for Special Dietary Uses”
- Definition of special dietary foods is revised;
- Fundamental requirements are revised;
- Partial requirements for labeling contents are revised;
- Appendix A is deleted.

**National Food Safety Standard**  
**Labeling of Prepackaged Foods for Special Dietary Uses**

**1 Scope**

This standard is applicable to the labeling of prepackaged foods for special dietary uses.

**2 Terms and Definitions**

The terms and definitions prescribed in GB7718-2011 “General Standards for Labeling of Prepackaged Foods” and GB28050-2011 “General Standards for Nutrition labeling of Prepackaged Foods” and those listed below are applicable to this standard.

**2.1 Foods for special dietary uses**

The foods specially processed or prepared with special formulas to satisfy the needs of specific diets in special physical or physiological conditions and / or diseases, disorders and other states. The nutrients and / or other nutritional ingredients contained in these foods are significantly different from those contained in the analogous ordinary foods.

The main foods for special dietary uses include:

**2.1.1 Baby Formula foods**

**2.1.1.1 Infant formula foods**

**2.1.1.2 Older infant and toddler formula foods**

**2.1.1.3 Baby formula foods for special medical purposes**

**2.1.2 Baby Complimentary foods**

**2.1.2.1 Cereal-based complimentary foods for baby**

**2.1.2.2 Canned complimentary foods for baby**

**2.1.3 Formula foods for special medical purposes (except those contained in 2.1.1.3)**

**2.1.4 Low-energy formula foods**

**2.1.5 Other special nutritional foods except those contained in 2.1.1-2.1.4.**

**2.2 Recommended nutrient intake**

The intake of nutrients that can satisfy the daily needs of the vast majority (97%-98%) of individuals from the population of a particular gender, age and physical condition.

## 2.3 Adequate intake

The daily intake of certain nutrients in the healthy population obtained through observations or experiments.

## 3 Basic Requirements

3.1 The label of prepackaged special dietary foods should be consistent with the contents of basic requirements prescribed in GB7718-2011 "General Standards for Labeling of Prepackaged Foods."

3.2 The label of prepackaged special dietary foods shall not use a drug name and /or drug graphic (excluding the medicinal and edible substances) to imply the efficiency, health care functions.

## 4 Labeled Contents

4.1 The labeled contents of prepackaged special dietary foods shall be marked in accordance with the requirements of the corresponding provisions in GB7718-2011. At the same time, they shall meet the following requirements:

### 4.2 Food Name

Only those foods that meet the definitions in 2.1 of this standard can use "Special Dietary Food" in their names or use the name with relevant description of particular product properties.

### 4.3 Labeling of Energy and Nutritional ingredient

4.3.1 The prepackaged special dietary foods shall be labeled with energy, protein, fat, carbohydrates and sodium as well as their contents. Other nutritional ingredients and their contents shall also be labeled according to the requirements of the relevant national standards. If the product contains other optional ingredients or some enhanced nutritional substances, then these ingredients and their contents shall also be labeled.

4.3.2 The contents of energy and nutritional ingredients in the prepackaged special dietary foods shall be labeled with specific values in every 100g/100ml and / or each portion of the edible food. When they are labeled with a portion of food, the amount of each portion should be labeled. The contents of nutritional ingredients in 100kJ of product should also be labeled as necessary or otherwise required by appropriate national standards.

4.3.3 The labeled values of energy or nutritional ingredients can be obtained by raw material calculation or product testing. The actual contents of energy and nutritional ingredients shall not be lower than 80% of the labeled values in the product quality assurance period.

4.3.4 The protein in the prepackaged special dietary food is provided by amino acids where the item "Protein" can be labeled with "Protein", "Protein (Equivalent )" or "Total Amino Acids."

### 4.4 Storage Conditions

4.4.1 If necessary, the storage conditions after the prepackaged special dietary food is unpackaged shall be labeled.

4.4.2 The consumers should be prompted if the prepackaged special dietary food after opening is not appropriate for storage or for storage in the original container.

### 4.5 Consumption methods and suitable population

4.5.1 The consumption methods and consumption per day or per meal of the prepackaged special dietary foods shall be labeled except the infant formula foods for special medical purposes and the formula foods for special purposes that should be used under the guidance of a doctor; the preparation methods shall also be labeled as necessary.

4.5.2 The prepackaged special dietary foods shall be labeled with their appropriate user.

### 4.6 Other labeled contents

4.6.1 It shall also be labeled in accordance with the relevant requirements in the associated national standards if there is a labeling requirement or instructions in the relevant national standards on prepackaged special dietary foods.

4.6.2 The infant formula foods for special medical purpose and the formula foods for special medical purposes shall be labeled with the product osmotic pressure and / or acid-base balance information, as necessary.

4.6.3 The infant formula foods for special medical purpose and the formula foods for special medical purpose shall be described with the product properties and characteristics, as necessary.

4.6.4 The infant formula foods for special medical purpose and the formula foods for special medical purpose shall be marked with “Use under the guidance of a professional”, “Use under the guidance of the physician or clinic nutritionist” or similar words, as necessary.

#### 4.7 Exemption of Labeled Contents

If the surface area of a package or container for prepackaged special dietary foods is less than 10cm<sup>2</sup>, no labeled contents are necessary other than the product name, net content and the name and address of the producer (or distributor).

#### 5. Recommended Labeled Contents

5.1 When labeling the value of energy and the value of nutritional ingredient contents, the amount of the energy and nutritional ingredient contents can be labeled in 100%/100ml and / or each portion of food labeled in percentage by mass accounted for the recommended intake or appropriate intake specified in the “Chinese Dietary Reference Intakes of Nutrient” based on the appropriate population, such as X%. The nutritional ingredients without recommended nutrient intake (RNI) or appropriate nutrient intake (AI) can be labeled with “-” or in similar mode instead of the percentage by mass.

#### 5.2 Content Claim or Comparative Claim to Energy and Nutritional Ingredients

5.2.1 The prepackaged special dietary foods in accordance with 5.2.2-5.2.4 can make a content claim or comparative claim to the energy or nutritional ingredient.

5.2.2 The claimed nutritional ingredient has significant content in the product.

5.2.3 The claimed nutritional ingredient shall have sufficient scientific evidence or provide the basis under which other countries or international organizations allow the claim.

5.2.4 The relative difference between the claimed nutritional ingredient in the product and that in the analogous foods shall not be less than 25%.

5.2.5 The content claim and comparative claim shall not be made to the ingredients required in the formula foods for the infants of 0 – 6 months of age.

#### 5.3 Function Claims to Energy and Nutritional Ingredients

5.3.1 The prepackaged specific dietary foods in accordance with 5.2.2-5.2.4 can make a function claim to the energy and / or nutritional ingredient.

5.3.2 The terms used for function claims shall have sufficient scientific evidence, or provide the basis from other countries and / or international organizations. Claiming or implying that the products have curative, therapeutic or disease preventive effects is not allowed.

5.3.3 The function claim shall not be made to the ingredients required in the formula foods for the infants of 0-6-months of age.

**END OF TRANSLATION**